

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Daxa Patel, I am the applicant of the Alameda Harbor Bay Hotel project.

I would like to start off by saying I respect all of the commissioners who voted whether for or against our project. However, since the voting happened which denied my project I am unable to sleep because there are too many questions that have crossed my mind. I would appreciate clarification on the following:

- 1) In the past three amendments all changes had occurred internally by BCDC. Now, BCDC is refusing to do it in the same fashion as the past. Why?
- 2) In the past, harbor bay office buildings and large housing complexes have been built within a 100ft of the shoreline band without going to commissioners for a vote. Those projects were not done by HBIA. Even following all BCDC guidelines, our project had to go to a commissioners vote, why did this change?
- 3) Our project is offering more amenities to the pedestrian walking the shoreline than any other project that has been developed on the harbor bay parkway. Our project gives the public the opportunity to come into the hotel to purchase snacks and drinks. Our project is the only one that has an outdoor patio open to the public with a fire pit and seating area around it. In addition, we would be putting much better landscaping and lighting than what currently exists today. Even with the added amenities to the shoreline our project was still denied, why?
- 4) We are offering more access from the street to the shoreline than both the business complex to the right of us and the housing area.
- 5) Prior to purchasing this land, I had been told the BCDC requirements were only in regards to improvements to the shoreline such as the shoreline pathway, benches, and lighting. I have also done everything required of me by the BCDC staff. Before our project, the only people that had to go through a big commissioners voting in Harbor Bay was the Ferry Terminal because it is in the water from what I have been told.

This is a great project for the citizens of Alameda. This is the only hotel with an indoor pool and rooms that overlook the beautiful bay view. Through our hotel we would be able to work with the community such as schools, family reunions, birthday parties, and corporate meetings for the surrounding businesses. Guest would be able to have local restaurants deliver food to the hotel for their meetings or individual rooms. Kids and adults would be able to play next door in the park as well as walk the shoreline.

Hotel development fits in the vision of BCDC to invite people to visit the shoreline. A hotel brings new guests every day to be able to enjoy the shoreline.

In the community aspect this hotel would provide jobs and more than \$500,000.00 in tax revenue to continue to beautify and maintain the parks, shoreline, roads, recreations, and more.

THE MAIN GOAL OF THE BCDC IS TO IMPROVE THE SHORELINE

As all commissioners know, east and west sides of the shoreline are developed, this is the only pathway undeveloped on the shoreline. As a developer I am willing to improve this undeveloped area of the shoreline with our hotel project.

I understand that some citizens of Alameda are opposed to this project. Every citizen has the right to express their concerns, with that being said I feel that we have addressed all concerns brought to my attention by BCDC staff. I have done everything BCDC has told me to do and followed all the guidelines. All I am asking is for a fair opportunity like others have received. Our project is approved by ALUC, FAA, City of Alameda, HBIA, Harbor Bay Parkway. Only BCDC is not approving this project. The sad part is that in the past BCDC approved similar types of projects in other places.

I feel like I am being targeted to fail because I am a minority, small business woman, but I am an American Citizen. I am requesting all commissioners to give me a fair chance like all the past developers have received. Time is of the essence because my entitlement expires by August 1st 2017.

I greatly appreciate all the commissioners to take the time to look into my concerns and to truly give me a fair opportunity to succeed.

Thank you,

Daxa Patel